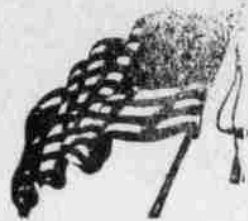


The Knoxville Independent

GEO. W. FORD, EDITOR.

718 GAY STREET.
OFFICE PHONE (OLD) 296
RESIDENCE PHONE (OLD) 686

Entered at the postoffice at Knoxville, Tenn., as second-class matter.

Subscription Rates, by mail, one year, \$1.00; six months, 50 cents; three months, 25 cents; single copies, 2 cents.

"No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil from poverty, none less inclined to take or touch aught which they have not honestly earned."—Abraham Lincoln.

UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA.
District 19.
Headquarters, Knoxville, Tenn.
Room 112 Henson Bldg., W. Ave.
and Prince St. Old Phone 601.I. J. Smith President
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DELEGATE TO KENTUCKY I. O. E. RATION OF LABOR.

John Jeffrey Pittsburg, Ky.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FOR KENTUCKY

Chas. E. Wells East Bernstadt, Ky.

United Mine Workers' International union has a total membership of 348,738 in 2701 locals.

City laborers of Richmond, Cal., have received an increase in wages of 50 cents per day, from \$2.50 to \$3.

The International Union of Laundry Workers is growing rapidly. The membership at latest report was 4,500.

Four hundred and five local unions are affiliated with the National International union, which has a combined membership of 50,000.

Because of the high cost of living many big meat companies of Chicago have announced either a bonus or an advance in salary for employees.

VICTORY FOR MINERS.

Pennsylvania Operators Grant Increase to Bituminous Workers.

Concessions which will mean an increase of more than \$20,000,000 a year in wages have been granted to the 55,000 mine workers of the bituminous fields of central Pennsylvania by a committee of operators who had been in conference with representatives of the men.

In addition to an advance in wages for all classes of labor ranging between 20 and 30 per cent, the greatest single increase ever given miners in this district, the operators agreed to assume the burden of collecting the miners' union dues without charge and paying the money, with a detailed statement, over to the local union. The men had asked a 33 1/3 per cent advance, and with this exception virtually all of their demands were met.

Workmen Given Farm Plots.

The Pennsylvania Rubber company in response to the appeal of President Wilson for an increased production of foodstuffs has turned over to its employees the extensive acreage surrounding its large plant at Jeannette, Pa.

This land will be allotted to employees on application in sections for planting. The company will plow and cultivate the entire acreage. Each employee will look after the crop on his section during the season and receive the profit when it is marketed.

Fishermen Quit Strike.

A compromise reached by the owners of vessels and the Gloucester branch of the New England Coast Fishermen's union that the fishermen should return to work after a strike of ten weeks was ratified by the Boston branch. The settlement provides there shall be no more strikes during the war.

OVERWORK IS A SOCIAL MENACE

The Long Day Is One of the Survivals of a Past Age.

STRAIN ON THE WORKERS.

Fatigue Long Continued Leads to Disease and Thus Becomes a Problem of Serious Magnitude—Physical Exhaustion Is Directly Responsible for Lower Efficiency of Half the Population.

The long day is one of the most hideous survivals of a past age. In some industries, such as steel making and railroad work, long hours are maintained continuously throughout the year. On the other hand, many industries have rush seasons, during which the factories work for abnormally long hours and then do little or no work in the slack season. The hours in the steel industry are habitually long. Whether the long hours be continuous or intermittent, their result is the same. Both involve overwork.

The strain of industrial effort upon the worker depends, first, upon the length of the day's work and, second, upon its intensity. Not only are hours in American industry long, but they continue long in the face of a rapid increase in the industrial strain. A score of devices are used to speed men to their uttermost.

Within the last decade hours have slightly decreased in the industrial world, but with this decrease in hours has gone an increase in speed. The girls in the recent shirt waist makers' strike in New York complained that instead of watching one needle running as needles did ten years ago, at the rate of 2,200 strokes a minute, they were now compelled to watch from two to twenty needles on the same machine, some running as high as 4,400 strokes a minute. The needles break, the thread catches, the material draws—a dozen things happen, and, as the work is piecework, every minute counts. While the total number of hours may be less, the total vitality expended on the work is necessarily much greater because of the increased concentration and speed required.

Fatigue is the product of the number of hours of work multiplied by the intensity of the work during each hour. In the steel mills of Pittsburgh "superintendent is pitted against superintendent, foreman against foreman, mill against mill. When a record is broken it means simply that the goal to be struggled for has been set ahead."

Similar conditions exist in the textile mills of New England. Years ago a woman tended two slowly running looms. Later, as the hours of work grew less, the number of looms was increased to four and six, and now, with some houses, an operative is expected to look after from twelve to sixteen looms.

Overwork is a menace to industrial, social and personal welfare, because it results in one of the most serious and far-reaching human maladies—fatigue. Fatigue, long continued, leads inevitably to exhaustion; exhaustion leads to disease, and then ultimately to a death which is due to continual, wearing, intense work. Overwork, with its attendant evils, thus becomes a problem of serious magnitude.

The waste of fatigue is far in excess of the waste from illness, since fatigue is directly responsible for the lower efficiency of at least one-half of the population.

Gripped by the stern necessity which compels him to earn his bread, the worker enters American industry and, caught in its levers and cogs, labors on, producing what he must, to earn what he may. Society does not need the extra goods which his weary fingers shape. There is one primary factor upon which society must depend for its maintenance—that is, upon joyous, enthusiastic men and women. There is neither joy nor enthusiasm in the victim of the long day.

If the average worker in modern industry was engaged in an occupation of tense interest and broad value, eight hours might be too few, but the average job is a dead job—monotonous, same to the point of madness. Could you make the same motion 4,000 times a day and keep it up day after day, year after year, without growing weary?

Was industry made for man or man for industry? There is one possible answer to that question. "Every social institution was made for man; hence when an institution ceases to serve man and instead demands service of him that institution must either be reformed or abolished." Men and women need not work twelve hours a day in order to secure a livelihood for themselves and for their families. Since this fact has been established beyond question, the long day has been weighed in the balance, found wanting and condemned to abolition. Yours, good Samaritans, is the task of enforcing this just sentence.—Professor Scott Nearing.

Fishermen Quit Strike.

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We do Job Printing at Fair Prices.

FROM ALL PARTS OF TENNESSEE

Reports of Interesting Events Boiled Down for Hasty Perusal.

Bristol.—The business men of Bristol are being urged to do their best to keep business normal.

Milan.—The commencement sermon of the Milan high school was preached by Rev. W. C. Sellers of Memphis.

Jackson.—The Tennessee furniture dealers' association will hold the 1917 convention in Jackson on June 7 and 8.

Huntingdon.—It is highly probable that Huntingdon will have a free delivery service of mail at an early date.

Lawrenceburg.—Loretto, a growing and wide-awake town, fourteen miles south of here, will have a hog show Saturday, June 2.

Paris.—The sheriff and county court clerk have made preparations for the registration of all male persons of military age on June 5.

Jackson.—The Jackson camp, Sons of Confederate veterans, has been reorganized, with William Holland as commandant and C. E. Pigford as adjutant.

Dyersburg.—A large number of Confederate veterans from Dyersburg and the surrounding towns will attend the Confederate reunion in Washington, beginning June 4.

Jackson.—The Madison county revenue commission has completed the annual audit of the books of Clerk and Master Nelson and found the affairs of the office in good shape.

Memphis.—Les Darcy, noted Australian pugilist, died after an illness of several weeks. Darcy's trouble began with bad teeth, causing an infection that culminated in pneumonia.

Clarksville.—Company K of Jackson is commanded by Capt. Key in Clarksville, with 113 soldiers of the First Tennessee regiment. They came in on a special train over the Tennessee Central railroad.

Chattanooga.—James W. Gerard, former ambassador to Germany, who was to have delivered an address at the commencement of University of Chattanooga, is unable to come at this time.

Knoxville.—General staff officers of the United States army, soon to be designated by Maj.-Gen. Leonard T. Wood, will visit Knoxville within the week to inspect sites for a divisional mobilization camp.

Nashville.—The "old guard" of the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis railway, composed of employees who have been in the service of the road since the civil war, held its tenth annual meeting here.

Nashville.—As a feature of the campaign for the sale of Liberty loan bonds the banks of Nashville announced a partial payment plan that will place the bonds within reach of virtually every adult in the city.

Jackson.—Three foreign-born musicians, members of the orchestra for "The Birth of a Nation," shown last week in Jackson, were the first to apply to County Court Clerk J. A. Thompson for registration blanks, to be sent to New York City, their place of residence. Two of the men were born in Italy, but came to this country in early youth.

Chattanooga.—Prof. J. C. Sapp, superintendent of schools at Dalton, Ga., near here, is dead following injuries received when a tenant house on his farm was blown down.

Newbern.—The merchants of Dyer county met at the courthouse in the interest of the food fight, which is being waged here. Nearly every merchant in the county was represented at the meeting, and all have agreed to cooperate with County Farm Agent E. F. Arnold.

Martin.—The twenty-sixth annual session of the West Tennessee medical and surgical association held a two-day session in Martin. There were about 150 members present. John R. Paris, of Rutherford, president; Dr. T. E. Sawyer of Martin, vice president; Dr. I. A. McSwain of Paris, secretary and treasurer.

Knoxville.—W. O. "Chink" Lowe, Alfred W. Ogle and E. T. Evans have been appointed second lieutenants by President Brown Ayres of the University of Tennessee, in accordance with war department instructions, and will go to Washington for the marine corps examination.

RUSSIAN FLEET RAIDS TURKS

Black Sea Squadron Destroys Moslem Port of Chivli on the Anatolian Coast.

Petrograd, May 30.—Russian sailors of the Russian Black sea fleet made a landing at Chivli, to the east of Samson, on the Anatolian coast, destroyed the Turkish post there and burned a store of grain and two large sailboats. Two other vessels were taken to Trebizond.

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DEMAND THE LABEL.

Members of a trade union should demand the label, shop and working card of every other union when they are spending their union earned money, ever having in mind that, if we expect our employers to employ us as union men, whenever we spend any money we, too, should employ union labor by insisting on union made goods.

If you are opposed to employers of child labor, prison labor, as well as other interests that are opposing organizations of labor, the only means of combating them is in discouraging their sale. They in no instance bear the union label.

ABOLISH SWEATSHOPS.

Trade Union Movement Has an Important Duty to Perform.

The sweatshop saps the vitality of the humblest worker in the industries; it deprives him of fresh air and sunlight; it is a breeding place of contagious disease. The white plague, known as tuberculosis, flourishes in these dens of iniquity.

The sweatshop robs childhood of sunshine and the playground; it retards the mental and physical development of the children. It is a national disgrace and a reproach on modern civilization.

The work in the sweatshop commences early in the morning and ends late in the evening. There is no closing hour. It is a perpetual grind engulfed in a helpless and hopeless industrial abyss.

The trade union movement has an imperative duty to perform. The wage slaves toiling in the sweatshops of the country have to be rescued from the inferno in which their spirits are crushed, their health sacrificed. The lowest paid and hardest pressed workers in the social scale are entitled to full consideration. It is of equal importance to the general welfare to save the sweatshop toiler from destruction and raise the wages of the best paid workers.

In the state of New York, where the sweating system in the tenement houses is growing constantly, the adverse decisions of the courts in past years have nullified legislation tending to eliminate this growing evil. Nothing short of a constitutional amendment by the legislature and organization seems able to prevent the continuation and extension of these dens of infamy and degradation.—Cigarmakers' Journal.

WHAT WORKMEN WANT.

Freedom of Speech, Justice and the Right to Organize.

In the course of a recent interview by a New York World reporter, William D. Mahon, president of the Amalgamated Association of Electric Street and Railway Employees, told the following story:

"We had a strike out in Indiana a while ago," he said, "and left it to arbitration, as we always aim to do. This time, however, the arbitrators gave us the worst of it. To do my best I couldn't wring from the board any concessions that seemed worth while, and I dreaded to report to the union. The union had been recognized, I told them, but the pay could not be raised that year. I simply told the facts and asked them how they felt about it and waited. One of the oldest men in the service jumped to the floor. 'Hoorsay!' he yelled. 'I'm a free man. I've been a slave twenty-five years. I've cringed and lied and been a traitor to myself because I had to be. I couldn't talk in favor of a union, I knew I'd be fired if I did. A raise in pay might come handy to a lot of us, but it ain't in it with being free.' Tears were streaming down his face, and I guess they were down mine. All of us realized the way he felt. All of us had been up against it. It's this slavery—this depriving a man of his fundamental rights, free speech and united action—that is the worst thing about the situation wherever rapid transit employees are not organized. The pay here in New York is the worst of any large city I know. But the intimidation of the men is worse yet."

Year of Strikes.

There were 3,190 strikes and 108 lockouts during 1916 in the United States. Probably there were more strikes than in 1915, although there were less lockouts. The employers won 471 and the employees in 706 strikes, 70 were arbitrated and 542 compromised. Practically every occupation was involved somewhere. "The year 1916," says an expert of the federal bureau of labor statistics, "will long be remembered as the year of strikes. The scarcity of labor and the rapid increase in the cost of living seem to have caused wage earners to feel that they were not getting their share of the present prosperity and to show their discontent by striking. Higher wages and shorter hours were the causes of two-thirds of the strikes last year, while a large proportion of the remainder was due to causes connected with unionization."

What number of men is usually supposed to include an army corps? An army corps is one of the subdivisions of an army and is in itself a complete tactical unit, capable of independent action as an army. Its strength varies in time of war from 20,000 to 40,000 men, and it is usually composed of two or three divisions of infantry, contingents of cavalry, artillery, engineers, telegraphers and signalers, field hospital and luggage and supply train.

Will you please print some important facts about the lives of John Fox, Jr., and Frank Norris, the novelists?

John Fox, Jr., was born in Bourbon county, Ky., in 1893. He was educated in Harvard university. His present address is Bigstone Gap, Va. Leading among his books are "Trail of the Lonesome Pine," "The Heart of the Hills," "Knight of the Cumberland" and "A Cumberland Vendetta."

Frank Norris was an American novelist and was born in Chicago, March 5, 1870. He studied art in Paris and acted as war correspondent in the South African war and the Spanish-American war. He wrote a number of novels, the most popular being "The Octopus" and "The Pit." He died in San Francisco Oct. 25, 1902, from the result of an operation for appendicitis.

We do Job Printing at Fair Prices.

"MADE IN AMERICA"

Enlist!

Enlist for America!

Enlist to keep American money in America for the benefit of Americans.

Enlist in the fight to boom "Made In America" products.

Enlist in the army of patriotic citizens of this great and peaceful land who believe in spending their money for American goods only so that they will benefit themselves and the poor man who is out of work.



Will you kindly give some idea of the war envelopes said to have been commonly used during the civil war?

At the time of the civil war various firms conceived the idea of putting on the market envelopes bearing mottoes, cartoons, pictures of famous generals, of the flag, battle scenes, names of regiments and the like. Often one-half the envelope was thus decorated, sometimes in colors. The envelopes were very popular and were used by all classes of the people. That so few of them are now in existence is accounted for by the fact that paper soon after the war was very high. This old paper was diligently sought for by manufacturers of paper, and the prices offered were fancy and very attractive to the housewives of the day, just as present day housewives are doing a land office business in old newspapers. A very good assortment of specimens of the old civil war envelopes is hard to find.

One owned by the Fairbanks museum, St. Johnsbury, Vt., comprises some 600 envelopes and a dozen letters. Many of these show pictures of Washington, McClellan, Grant, Lincoln and Colonel Ellsworth. The latter appears to have been a favorite with the envelope makers, and his tragic death was depicted in a variety of ways. The entire front of some envelopes is taken by views of army headquarters, encampments and hospitals at such places as Baltimore, Alexandria and Suffolk, while others display the flag at full size of the envelope, the address being written along the white bars of the flag or on the back of the envelope. Columbia figured largely in these pictures, as did the eagle. The cartoons of the day came in for their share of display on the envelopes.

Are there any official flag regulations, or is the manner of display left to custom and precedent?

In the custom house regulations of 1899 article 1,818 says: "The flag of the United States shall be displayed over all public buildings under control of the treasury department during the hours of business and on Feb. 22, May 30 and July 4 from sunrise to sunset. Should any of the last three days fall on Sunday the flag is to be displayed on the day that is observed locally. On May 30 the flag should be placed at half mast. The revenue flag of the United States, consisting of sixteen perpendicular stripes of alternate red and white, with a red stripe next to the flagstaff and the arms of the United States in dark blue on a white field, as the union, shall also be hoisted over all customs buildings during the hours of business, except in stormy weather. The flag should never be unfurled before sunrise and must always be taken down at sunset." It is well to note the phrase "except in stormy weather" and the mandatory "should" and "must" about sunrise and sunset.

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Is there any defense uniformly successful for a battleship against a submarine?

The New York Nation said in a recent issue:

"The French battleship Danton, whose sinking by a submarine is now officially admitted by the French government, is the third or fourth large battleship to be sunk when surrounded by a convoy of destroyers and patrol boats. The Danton had one destroyer near her and patrol boats to a number not specified, yet the submarine escaped easily. This is a fact of great importance which has not been sufficiently dwelt upon. It should be impressed upon those Americans who seem to feel that the task of sweeping the submarines from the seas is merely a question of a decision by the cabinet and congress and the sending of our destroyers and patrol boats to convoy our merchantmen. As yet no effective defense against the submarine has been worked out, least of all for a battleship."

How large is the District of Columbia?

Its present area is seventy square miles. As originally created in 1790 it was 100 square miles, the territory having been ceded to the national government jointly by the states of Maryland and Virginia. In 1846 the Virginia portion, including the city of Alexandria, was ceded back to that state.

Is Cuba an independent republic or a protected republic?

On the whole, in view of the agreements by Cuba restricting her sovereignty, Cuba can perhaps best be described as a protected republic.

Please tell what the law is regarding the protection of the army and navy uniform.

An act of congress, approved March 1, 1911, entitled "An act to protect the dignity and honor of the uniform of the United States," provides: "That hereafter no proprietor, manager or employee of a theater or public place of entertainment or amusement in the District of Columbia or in any territory, the district of Alaska or insular possessions of the United States, shall make or cause to be made any discrimination against any person lawfully wearing the uniform of the army, navy, revenue cutter service or marine corps of the United States because of that uniform, and any person making or causing to be made such discrimination shall be guilty of misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not exceeding \$500."

Please give me the origin of the name "Tommy Atkins" as applied to the English soldier.

The true origin of the term is given as follows in the Oxford Dictionary under "Thomas": "Thomas Atkins (also Thomas), a familiar name for the typical private soldier in the British army, arising out of the casual use of this name in the specimen forms given in the official regulations from 1815 onward. In some of the specimen forms other names are used, but 'Thomas Atkins,' being that used in all the forms for privates in the cavalry or infantry, is by far the most frequent and thus became the most familiar. Now more popularly Tommy Atkins or Tommy."

How did the custom of raising the hat originate?

The custom of lifting the hat is traced back to the age of chivalry, when it was customary for knights never to appear in public except in armor. It became a custom, however, for a knight upon entering an assembly of friends to remove his helmet, signifying, "I am safe in the presence of friends." The age of chivalry passed away with the fifteenth century, but among the many acts of courtesy which can be traced to its influence none is more direct in its origin than the lifting of the hat to acknowledge the presence of a friend.